

BLM News Release ? BLM News Release ? BLM News Release

P.O. Box 2965 (333 SW 1st Avenue) ? Portland, Oregon 97208 ? <http://www.or.blm.gov>

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Contact: Pam Robbins, (503) 808-6306
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Additional Time to Apply for Southeast Oregon Advisory Positions

PORTLAND, OR - - - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has extended the application period to fill two unexpired terms on the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The nomination period for the **commercial timber** and **dispersed recreation** representatives remains open until **September 30, 2003**. Companies, government agencies, schools, groups or any individual may nominate a qualified person to the RAC. The person selected to represent commercial timber industry interests will serve until September 2004, and the appointee may serve additional terms. The person selected to represent back-country recreation interests will serve until September 2005, and may also be reappointed.

Council members are unpaid but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. RACs usually meet quarterly within their geographic area. Regular member terms are for three years. Nomination forms and facts about the Southeast Oregon RAC are available on the web at <http://www.or.blm.gov/seor-rac>.

Nominations must be accompanied by letters of reference from represented interests or organizations, a completed background information nomination form, and any other information that describes the nominee's qualifications. Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the Council's geographic area. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. Completed application packets should be sent to Pam Robbins, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

The RACs are an integral part of land management for federal agencies. Local RACs provide critical input on developing management plans for areas such as Southeast Oregon, Lakeview, the Owyhee River and implementing the National Fire Plan. They produced the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management, and the Southeast Oregon RAC was essential to developing legislation that conserves and protects the Steens Mountain area.

BLM, an Agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land, 262 million surface acres, than any other Federal Agency. Of this, about 164 million acres are permitted for livestock grazing. Most of the country's BLM-managed Public Land is located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Agency, which has a budget of \$1.8 billion and a workforce of 10,000 employees, also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the Nation. BLM's "multiple-use" mission is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. BLM accomplishes this by managing for such resources as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, and energy and mineral development that helps meet the Nation's energy needs, and by conserving natural, historic, cultural and other resources on the Public Lands.

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